UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/AC.105/C.1/WG.5/L.29
4 March 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL
USES OF OUTER SPACE
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
Working Group on the Use of Nuclear
Power Sources in Outer Space

USE OF NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES IN OUTER SPACE

Draft preamble to the principles relevant to the use of nuclear-power sources in outer space

Working paper submitted by Australia, Canada, France, Germany, India, Turkey and United Kingdom

Recognizing that for some missions in outer space nuclear-power sources (NPS) are particularly suited due to their compactness and long life;

Recognizing that the use of NPS in outer space should focus on those missions which take advantage of the particular properties of NPS;

Recognizing that the use of NPS in outer space should be based on a thorough safety assessment, with particular emphasis on reducing the risk of accidental exposure of the public to harmful radiation or radioactive material;

Recognizing the need, in this respect, for specific procedures and criteria, in the form of a set of principles, to ensure safe use of NPS in outer space;

Affirming that this set of principles applies to NPS in outer space devoted to generation of electric power on board space objects;

Recognizing that this set of principles may undergo future revisions in view of emerging nuclear-power applications and of evolving international recommendations on radiological protection.

040392

92-10170 3695a (E) 040392